

BOOK NOTICES

Timber Press

ROBBIN C. MORAN. 2004. **A Natural History of Ferns**. (ISBN 0-88192-667-1, hbk.). Timber Press Inc. 133 S.W. Second Ave, Suite 450, Portland, OR 97204-3527, U.S.A. and 2 Station Road, Swavesey, Cambridge CB4 5QJ, U.K. (**Orders:** www.timberpress.com, mail@timberpress.com, 503-227-2878, 1-800-327-5680, 503-227-3070 fax). \$29.95, 301 pp., 26 color plates, 145 b/w line drawings, 6 1/4" × 9 1/4".

Robbin Moran's new book, *A Natural History of Ferns*, is a delight. This book is not a field guide to the identification of ferns. The author is quick to point out, "...there are plenty of those [field guides] available. Instead, it picks up where field guides leave off, examining the biology of these plants—how they grow and develop, reproduce and disperse, adapt and evolve." If you are into ferns then you will delight in this book.

BILL MCCLAREN. 2004. **Encyclopedia of Dahlias**. (ISBN 0-88192-658-2, hbk.). Timber Press Inc. 133 S.W. Second Ave, Suite 450, Portland, OR 97204-3527, U.S.A. and 2 Station Road, Swavesey, Cambridge CB4 5QJ, U.K. (**Orders:** www.timberpress.com, mail@timberpress.com, 503-227-2878, 1-800-327-5680, 503-227-3070 fax). \$39.95, 211 pp., 800+ color photos, 8 1/2" × 11".

Dahlias are beautiful and if nothing else you would enjoy this as a 'coffee table' book. About 700 selections are included with notes on their history, awards and cultural peculiarities. Thirteen chapters cover about every aspect of *Dahlia* including dahlia care and propagation, wild species of dahlia, hybridizing, and classification.

TONI LAWSON-HALL and BRIAN ROTHIERA. 2004. **Hydrangeas: A Gardener's Guide. Revised Edition**. (ISBN 0-88192-669-8, hbk.). Timber Press Inc. 133 S.W. Second Ave, Suite 450, Portland, OR 97204-3527, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.timberpress.com, mail@timberpress.com, 503-227-2878, 1-800-327-5680, 503-227-3070 fax). \$34.95, 176 pp., color photos, b/w drawings, 7 1/2" × 10 3/4".

From the Dustjacket.—This book is in two sections. In the first chapter, The Genus *Hydrangea*, the history and natural distribution of hydrangeas are outlined, and the general characteristics explained. The 14 species mostly commonly grown in cultivation are described in detail, with special reference to the naming problems of *H. macrophylla*. The second section describes 100 cultivars in detail.